

Newborn Screening is an
important test that will

Start your
baby



on the
right foot



Utah
Department
of Health

Newborn screening is an important test that will *start your baby on the right foot.*

Congratulations! As a new parent, you want what is best for your baby. Newborn screening checks to make sure your baby is healthy. This booklet will answer some of the questions you may have about newborn screening.

What is newborn screening?

Newborn screening is the name of a special blood test that will be done for your baby. This test checks for over 30 diseases using a small drop of blood from your baby's foot.

Why does my baby need newborn screening?

Newborn screening checks for health problems that can make your baby very sick. If your baby has one of these diseases, it is best to find out right away so treatment can be started. Newborn screening is also required by law in Utah.

My baby looks healthy. Why do they need this test?

Babies who have these diseases and babies who do not have these diseases look the same at birth. In Utah, all babies are checked for health problems to find the ones that need special treatment.

What diseases will my baby be checked for?

Newborn screening checks for diseases that can cause problems with the

way the body gets energy, how the body makes hormones, or how the body makes blood cells. For a complete list of diseases your baby will be checked for talk to your doctor or visit:

<http://health.utah.gov/newbornscreening>



How is the blood for the tests collected?

Several small drops of blood will be collected from your baby's foot. Testing is safe and will not harm your baby.

When will the test be done?

In Utah, newborn screening is done twice. The first test is done before you go home from the hospital or when your baby is about 2 days old. The second test is done when your baby is 2 weeks old. This test is usually done at your baby's doctor's office.

What do I need to do to make sure my baby gets tested?

If your baby is born in a **hospital** ask your nurse if the testing has been done. You will be given a second blood collection form before you go home. Take this form to your baby's first doctor appointment. Your baby's doctor will make sure the testing is done.

If your baby is born at **home**, ask your midwife for help in getting the testing done. Or call the Utah Department of Health at (801) 584-8256 to arrange for testing. Make sure that both tests are done for your baby.

↑ TO REMOVE - PULL HERE

Utah Newborn Screening

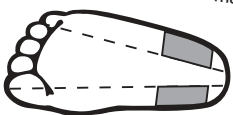
Please Read This Important Information

SECOND SCREEN:
General Instructions

Collect specimen after 7 days of life.

COLLECTION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Legibly print ALL information in spaces provided using block capital letters.
2. Collect specimen with heel stick. See newborn screening handbook for detailed instructions.
3. Fill all 7 circles.
4. Dry 3-4 hours before mailing.



COLLECT SAMPLE FROM SHADED AREA.

Mailing Instructions:

1. When blood is dry, fold stock card (from back of form) over blood spots. The flap should enclose the blood spots and reveal a biohazard symbol.
2. If using the postal service, place form with blood spots covered into envelope.

Mail to:

Newborn Screening Laboratory
Utah Department of Health
46 N Medical Dr
Salt Lake City UT 84113-9903
Phone: (801) 584-8256

For more information, call, refer to your handbook or visit our website:
http://www.health.utah.gov/newbornscreening/HCP_Instructions.htm

Retain this sheet for your records.

I.D. Number

How do I get my baby's test results?

Test results will be sent to the hospital and to your baby's doctor (medical home). Ask the doctor for the results of the tests.

What if my baby has an abnormal result?

Your baby's doctor will be called if the test is abnormal. An abnormal result does not mean that your baby has a disease. Your doctor will order more tests to make sure your baby is normal.

You can help by:

- ✓ Making sure your address and phone number are correct on the blood collection form.
- ✓ Making sure your baby's doctor is listed on the blood collection form.
- ✓ Completing all of the tests.

What will happen to my baby's blood sample after the testing is done?

The blood sample will be kept at the state lab for a short time. It will then be destroyed.

How can I get more information on newborn screening?

Ask your doctor or call the Utah Ask your doctor or call the Utah Department of Health at (801) 584-8256. You can also visit our website at:

<http://health.utah.gov/newbornscreening>



Remember these important things to start your baby off on the right foot.

- ✓ All babies in Utah are checked to make sure they don't have certain health problems.
- ✓ The testing is safe.
- ✓ Your baby will be checked twice. The first screen should be done when your baby is 2 days old. The second screen should be done when your baby is 2 weeks old.
- ✓ You will be given a second blood collection form. Keep it in a safe place. Don't forget to bring the second blood collection form to your baby's first doctor visit.
- ✓ An abnormal test does not always mean your baby has a disease. Your baby's doctor will arrange for more testing.



Newborn Screening Program
Utah Department of Health
Children With Special Health Care Needs

801-584-8256
<http://health.utah.gov/newbornscreening>